

Meeting Notice

SBOH #12-008

For immediate release: November 9, 2012

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Fire, tsunami, whooping cough briefings on Board of Health's agenda

Nov. 14, 9:30 a.m.-4:20 p.m., Cherberg Building, Senate Hearing Room 3, 304 15th Ave. S.E., Olympia

OLYMPIA – Washington State Board of Health members will hear updates about two environmental health issues and a disease outbreak when they meet Wednesday, November 14, on the Capitol Campus in Olympia.

Staff members from Department of Health and Department of Ecology will brief the board about air quality concerns related to this year's central Washington wildfires. Representatives of the same two agencies will talk about debris coming to Washington's shores from the tsunami that struck Japan in March of 2011. Board members will also hear the latest about this year's whooping cough epidemic in the state.

In addition, the board is inviting public comment and may take action to update its HIV/AIDs testing rules to make sure they better align with CDC patient consent recommendations.

The meeting is open to the public, and the public may provide testimony on any public health issue at about 3:30 p.m. Copies of the agenda and related materials are available by contacting the board at 360-236-4100 or on the <u>Board of Health website</u> (sboh.wa.gov). The emergency and media contact number for the board during the meeting is 360-701-2398.

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The board's mission is to provide statewide leadership in advancing policies that protect and improve the public's health. It does this by reviewing and monitoring the health status of all people in Washington; analyzing policies, providing guidance, and developing rules; promoting system partnerships; and encouraging public engagement in the public health system. For more information, visit the <u>Board of Health</u> website (sboh.wa.gov/).